With the aid of the International Co-operation Administration (Point Four) missions, we visited remote rural areas. We saw many ambitious industrial projects—some completed, others in an initial phase or abandoned—and tried to mingle as much as possible with local people, workers and peasants as well as businessmen and hacienda owners. We visited many rural schools, saw the best housing projects and the worst slums. Our conferences covered a broad range of economic and social problems, but, whatever the topic, our ultimate purpose was to help the listeners understand the United States, not only its economic and social system but its spirit, the patterns of its thinking, its attitude toward other peoples.

Usually I spoke in English and Emma translated my words into Spanish. She had learned this language in three months especially for this trip, and at the beginning she was not very sure of herself. But her Spanish proved to be excellent—*puro castillano,* the local newspapers called it. In comparison with professional interpreters, her advantage was in being wholly familiar with the subject and my way of presenting it. Thus, what we offered was actually a bilingual lecture, without a moment of interruption between the English and the Spanish texts. The listeners appreciated our effort to reach them in their own language, and the press emphasized that *Doctora Emma* had learned Spanish especially for the visit.

We avoided anything that could sound like political propaganda and tried to expose the Communist lies about the United States in a positive way by describing the American socio-economic scene. This approach proved effective; our reception was invariably friendly, even in the universities with leftist reputations. After each lecture young people surrounded us, asking for a copy of our talk to be used in seminars, for an interview for the students' magazine, or simply for autographs. Since the psychological climate was unfavorable for the leftists, they usually limited themselves to polite questions designed to embarrass us; actually their questions gave us an opportunity to elaborate on our point of view.

Our talks before workers covered about the same range of subjects and were on the same "academic" level, though more popular in form. We tried to show that labor unions are a constructive force in a modern democracy and that their historical task has been to improve the living conditions of workers within the existing society.

Our travel in Latin America showed us the fallacy of the concept of Latin America as a potential geopolitical unit—a happy family of twenty-odd sister republics. Indeed, these sisters have little in common except their common heritage of colonial days, a heritage cherished by some and hated by others as the memory of the destruction of the native civilization by cruel and greedy conquerors.